

The statement is made that most of the seedlings imported from Europe as *U. campestris* are *U. foliacea*, and this has led to the confusion in this country in the identity of the English and European elms.

The *Bulletins* are published at frequent intervals during the growing season and are free.—N. T.

Volume I, No. I, of the Brooklyn Botanic Garden *Record* has just been issued. It is a quarterly, and according to its foreword, “. . . is purely an administrative organ, and is not intended either as a scientific publication or as a newspaper, but, as its name indicates, to serve as a record of the development and progress of the Garden, and as a medium of communication between the Garden and its constituency. One of the numbers of each volume will contain the Annual Report of the Director of the Garden.”—N. T.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CLUB

NOVEMBER 29, 1911

The meeting was held in the laboratory of the New York Botanical Garden and was called to order at 3:40 p.m. by the acting secretary in the absence of other officers. Ten persons were present. The reading of minutes and the transaction of business were passed over and the meeting proceeded with the scientific program. The first announced paper was by Mr. Arlow Burdette Stout on “The Characteristics of the Fungus *Sclerotium rhizodes* with special Reference to its Action on the Cells of its Host,” of which the following is an abstract:

Mr. A. B. Stout presented in part the results of his investigations of the fungus *Sclerotium rhizodes* Auersw., a complete report of which will soon appear in a research bulletin of the Wisconsin Agricultural Experimental Station.*

Special mention was made of the behavior of the fungus in

* A more complete abstract than is here given appeared in *Phytopathology*, 1: 69.

the different organs of the host plant and microscopical preparations were exhibited demonstrating the relations of the fungus to the cells of its principal host *Calamagrostis canadensis*.

The fungus is coexistent in leaves, buds, stems, rhizomes and roots of the infected plants. Filaments of the fungus also form a thin web on the exterior of the roots and extend out into the soil.

In the leaves the fungus is vigorously parasitic. In the culms fungal filaments are most abundant in the region of the nodes, but there is almost no destruction of tissues. In the underground parts of the culms and in rhizomes the hyphae completely digest the cell contents of cortical cells, but have no effect on the cell walls except at the points of actual penetration. In the older portions of roots the hyphae are scattered through the cortex, where they occupy empty cells. In the younger lateral roots the filaments of the fungus are found penetrating living cells and exhibiting characteristics which have been ascribed to mycorrhizal fungi. Ultimately, however, the cell contents disappear while the fungus remains intact.

The fungus is perennial in the soil, and in the underground portions of the host. It is present in buds, but is unable to penetrate into the growing apex.

The fungus, therefore, exhibits a varying degree of parasitism in the different parts of the host.

The presentation of the second announced paper, "Studies on the Growth and Reproduction of Certain Species of *Ascobolus*," by Mr. Bernard O. Dodge, was omitted on account of the illness and absence of Mr. Dodge.

Mrs. N. L. Britton exhibited drawings and microscopic preparations illustrating certain types of thickening in the cell walls of the leaves of mosses.

Dr. N. L. Britton discussed the characters of a new species of *Elaeagia* from Cuba. This is a Rubiaceous shrub 8 or 10 feet high, with fruit imperfectly known. The hitherto known species of the genus *Elaeagia* occur in the Andes of South America and this new plant from the mountains of Cuba forms another link in the chain of relationship between the flora of the higher alti-

tudes of the West Indies and that of the mountains of South America.

After discussion of the various papers, adjournment followed.

MARSHALL A. HOWE,
Secretary pro tem.

NEWS ITEMS

We learn from *Science* that Mr. J. C. Th. Uphof, of Amsterdam, author of "Die Pflanzengattungen," has been appointed gardener for the Botanical Garden at the Michigan Agricultural College. He will also do work in connection with the herbarium. He is expected to enter upon his duties in the latter part of February.

Dr. Jean Baptiste Edouard Bornet, well known for his morphological and taxonomic writings on the algae, died at his home in Paris on December 18, 1911, aged 83 years. He was associated with Gustave Thuret in the publication of the classical "Notes Algologiques" and "Études Phycologiques" which did much to lay the foundations of an accurate knowledge of the structure and modes of reproduction of the marine algae. Figures from the detailed and beautifully artistic plates of these works have been familiar to students of the standard botanical textbooks for the past thirty years.

At the University of Pennsylvania Mr. F. W. Pennell has been granted a fellowship in botany and Mr. J. Y. Pennypacker a botanical scholarship.

Dr. C. B. Robinson, for several years connected with the Philippine Bureau of Science, has returned to New York. His address, for the present, will be the New York Botanical Garden, where he will continue his studies on the flora of the Philippines, and on the family VACCINIACEAE.